



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2171 2777
#3/A
27/01



Applicant : Simon H. Corston-Oliver et al.

Serial No.: 09/336,200

Filed : June 18, 1999

For : SYSTEM FOR IMPROVING THE PERFORMANCE OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL-TYPE TASKS BY IDENTIFYING THE RELATIONS OF CONSTITUENTS

Group Art Unit: 2771

Examiner: 2175

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Technology Center 2100

Docket No.: M61.12-0099

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, THIS

25th DAY OF January 2001
Joseph R. Kelly
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action, it is respectfully requested that the following amendments be made.

IN THE CLAIMS

SUB C57

63. The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining a set of relations comprises:

obtaining case information based on the usefulness of a constituent having that case; and

obtaining grammatical relation information based on a usefulness of a constituent having that grammatical relation.

64. The method of claim 63 wherein determining the relationship comprises:

determining the usefulness of the identified constituents